

**RESPONSE:**

Claims 6-12 have been cancelled and rewritten as claims 25-31; the Office's indication that these claims (as well as claims 13-16 which now depend therefrom) are allowable is acknowledged with appreciation.

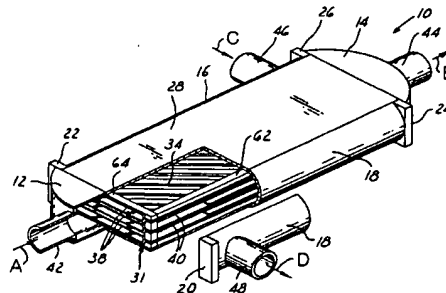
Withdrawn claims 18-24 have been cancelled thereby obviating any additional claim fees being necessitated by the present filing.

**ARGUMENTS:**

All of the claim rejections (claims 1-5 and 17) are based primarily on *Mathur et al.* '874.

US006516874B2

<p>(12) <b>United States Patent</b> <b>Mathur et al.</b></p> <p>(54) <b>ALL WELDED PLATE HEAT EXCHANGER</b></p> <p>(75) <b>Inventors:</b> Achint P. Mathur, Wichita Falls, TX (US); Chunshou Gu, Wichita Falls, TX (US); Jason Michael Palmer, Wichita Falls, TX (US)</p> <p>(73) <b>Assignee:</b> Delaware Capital Formation, Inc., Wilmington, DE (US)</p> <p>(*) <b>Notice:</b> Subject to any disclaimer, the term of this patent is extended or adjusted under 35 U.S.C. 154(b) by 0 days.</p> <p>(21) <b>Appl. No.:</b> 10/005,949</p> <p>(22) <b>Filed:</b> Dec. 5, 2001</p> <p>(65) <b>Prior Publication Data</b> US 2003/0100007 A1 Jan. 2, 2003</p> <p><b>Related U.S. Application Data</b> (40) <b>Provisional application No. 60/302,219, filed on Jun. 29, 2001.</b></p> <p>(51) <b>Int. Cl.:</b> F28F 3/00</p> <p>(52) <b>U.S. Cl.:</b> 165/166; 165/170; 165/167</p> <p>(58) <b>Field of Search:</b> 165/166; 167; 165/140; 170</p> <p>(56) <b>References Cited</b> U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS 3,473,604 A * 10/1969 Felschbacher ..... 165/166</p>	<p>(10) <b>Patent No.:</b> <b>US 6,516,874 B2</b></p> <p>(45) <b>Date of Patent:</b> Feb. 11, 2003</p> <p>(*) <b>Notice:</b> Subject to any disclaimer, the term of this patent is extended or adjusted under 35 U.S.C. 154(b) by 0 days.</p> <p>(*) <b>Notice:</b> Subject to any disclaimer, the term of this patent is extended or adjusted under 35 U.S.C. 154(b) by 0 days.</p> <p><b>Primary Examiner—Henry Bennett</b> <b>Assistant Examiner—Herrell McKinnon</b> (74) <b>Attorney, Agent, or Firm—Reising, Uhlir, Barnes, Kinelle, Learman &amp; McCulloch, PC</b></p> <p>(57) <b>ABSTRACT</b> The invention relates to an all-welded plate heat exchanger comprised of a plurality of plates welded together to form casettes that are stacked one upon the other so as to provide primary and secondary alternating channels through which fluids are adapted to flow for exchanging heat. The primary channels provided within the casettes connect at opposite ends with inlet and outlet openings. The casettes are welded along two opposing sides via resistance seam welding. Baffle clips are fastened between the casettes to partially close off the sides of the secondary channels provided between the casettes. Two inlet headers, two outlet headers, a top cover member and a bottom cover member enclose the stacked casettes.</p> <p><b>19 Claims, 7 Drawing Sheets</b></p>
---	--



As may be appreciated above, *Mathur et al.* '874 has two possible 102(e) effective dates: 29 June 2001 for the subject matter disclosed in Provisional Patent Application 60/302,219 and 05 December 2001 for any additional subject matter disclosed in the Utility Application filing.

Applicant has attempted to investigate these issues, but the two applications are NOT available in an image file wrapper from the PTO. Therefore, should the Office reiterate these *Mathur et al.* '874-based rejections, it is respectfully requested that copies of the two relevant applications be supplied in the next official action.

However, Applicants enjoy a claimed (and now perfected) priority date of 27 March 2001 (Swedish Priority Application 0101085-9) via the accompanying (Annex "A") English translation of said priority application. This priority date predates both possible effective dates of *Mathur et al.* '874 thereby removing it as a legal reference under ALL sections of 35 USC 102. Therefore, withdrawal of the *Mathur et al.* '874-based rejections is respectfully requested.

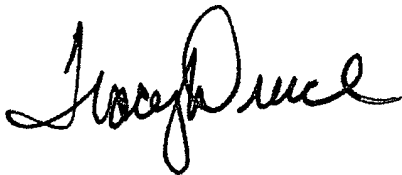
\*\*\*\*\*

The undersigned representative requests any extension of time that may be deemed necessary to further the prosecution of this application.

The undersigned representative authorizes the Commissioner to charge any additional fees under 37 C.F.R. 1.16 or 1.17 that may be required, or credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 14-1437, Order No. 00173.0040.PCUS00.

In order to facilitate the resolution of any issues or questions presented by this paper, the Examiner should directly contact the undersigned by phone to further the discussion.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Tracy Druce', written in a cursive style.

Tracy Druce  
Patent Attorney  
Reg. No. 35,493  
Tel. 202.293.7333